



# AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



TEL (864) 638-4218 FAX (864) 638-4168

## Minutes

5:00 PM, Monday December 13, 2021

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OCONEE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX

### Members Present

Rex Blanton

Debbie Sewell

Charlie Whiten

Tessa Moxley

### Staff Present

James Coley

Laura Zimmerman

### Media Present

None

1. **Call to order** – Ms. Sewell called the meeting to order at 5:00pm
2. **Approval of Minutes** – November 8, 2021. Mr. Whiten made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Mr. Blanton. Ms. Sewell called for a vote. The motion passed 4/0.
3. **Public Comment Session** [3 minutes per person] *If you are not able to attend in person and you have a comment, you may submit it by contacting the Planning Department at [planninginfo@oconeesc.com](mailto:planninginfo@oconeesc.com) or 864-638-4218, so that we may receive your comment and read it into the record.* - None
4. **Introductions** – James Coley, Planning Director
5. **Discussions** – [to include Vote and/or Action on matters brought up in discussion if required]
  - a. **Proposed Development Standards**
    - i. Communication to County Council - letter.
    - ii. Presentation to County Council
      1. Talking points:
        - a. Ms. Sewell proposed that each Ag Board member speak to their county representative in favor of the proposed development standards
        - b. Ms. Sewell proposed the following argument in favor of the standards: The scope of the development standards is quite

**Oconee County Administrative Offices**

**415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691 / 864.638.4218 / [www.oconeesc.com](http://www.oconeesc.com)**

narrow; minimum buffering, screening, and lighting requirements for *new developments*, therefore should be accepted as a baseline of standards.

- b. **Road Safety and Agriculture**
    - i. Communication to County Council – letter
      - 1. Mr. Whiten to present to County Council
        - a. Mr. Whiten met with farmers across the state and found that road safety is an issue statewide. Equipment is larger and many key roads are not maintained to standard.
        - b. The primary request is that the state and County do the necessary maintenance to maintain road safety; including, but not limited to, keeping signs and mailboxes at the regulation setbacks, cutting back overgrown vegetation on roadsides, and maintaining a clear shoulder.
      - 2. A letter written by Mr. Whiten was submitted to Mr. Coley to be reviewed and addressed at the next meeting.
    - ii. Presentation to County Council
6. **Adjourn-** Mr. Blanton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Whiten, and approved 4/0.